IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification as follows:

Amend the paragraph starting on page 20 and ending on page 21 to read as follows:

Figure 1 schematically shows a cash-in-transit security container in cross section. The container, generally indicated as 2, provides protection against theft while the cash is being carried from a delivery vehicle to an automatic teller machine. This has traditionally been the weakest point in a security system, since the guard may be physically attacked in order to render him incapable, and the security container may be removed from the guard. An ATM cash cassette 4 is locked to an interface card 6 which contains a plurality of locking components in order to enable it to lock to various other components of the system. A hood 8 is also locked to the interface card 6 and carries ~~in~~ an internal module 10 which incorporates a spoiling apparatus and processing electronics. An enclosure (also referred to herein as a sleeve) 12 surrounds the cash cassette 4 and extends within a lower lip of the hood 8, thereby completely enclosing the cash cassette 4 and the interface card 6. The hood 8 and the enclosure 12 are each manufactured so as to include a plurality, typically two, elongate conductive elements which repeatedly traverse the surface or interior of the hood and container in order that a breach in the walls of the hood or container will cause the conductive elements to be broken. This loss of conductivity can be used by the processing electronics within the module 10 as an indication that an attack upon the cash carrying container 2 is in progress.

Amend the paragraph starting on page 31 and ending on page 32 to read as follows:

In use, the male part 100 is attached to an automatic teller machine and positioned such that it engages with the female part 102 carried on a cash cassette when the cash cassette is at its operating position. As the cash cassette is loaded, the casing 110 is moved towards the male part 100 and the sleeve 150 engages with the conical recess 112 and is pushed against the urging of the compression spring ~~150~~ 152 to uncover the aperture 140. This relative motion also ensures than any debris in the aperture 112 is pushed past the outlet pipe 116 thereby ensuring that debris cannot be deliberately introduced into the aperture 112 in order to defeat the security systems. A position sensor (not shown) monitors the relative motion of the sleeve 150 with respect to the remainder of the male unit to ensure that it reaches the correct position. Additionally, a latching arm (not shown) extends from the male unit towards a matching

element on the female unit. The latching arm can only engage if the male and female units are correctly positioned with respect to one another. The position of the latching arm and also of the sleeve 150 is monitored by a controller (not shown) and only when these are at their correct position does the controller acknowledge that the security system is operable. The locating elements may be arranged to lock the cash cassette at a first position corresponding to the operating position of the cassette in the ATM. However, the locking elements may include sacrificial or weakened elements which, in the event that an unauthorised attempt is made to forcibly remove the cash cassette, allows the cassette to be moved to a second, slightly withdrawn position, which is detected by a position sensor. This movement to the second position causes the ink delivery system to be activated so as to spoil the contents of the cassette. The provision of multiple delivery outlets, or an elongate outlet, ensures that the ink delivery system can still work when the cassette is at the second position.

Amend the specification by inserting the following on page 36 after line 2

Figure 17 shows a schematic representation of an embodiment of the invention which includes a first security system 400 holding a portable container 402. The first security system includes a locking means 406 to retain the portable container 402 and a spoiling means 404 to spoil the contents of the portable container if the container or system is tampered with. Control means 408 within the first security system, which controls the operation of both the locking means 406 and the spoiling means 404, includes a local memory 414, a power supply 416 and one or more sensors 418 to detect inappropriate movements of the container or attempts to defeat the security system. Examples of the sensors 418 include an accelerometer, compass, inertial guidance system or temperature sensor. The temperature sensor would have the capability to detect extreme heat, such as from a hot torch, or extreme cold, which might be used to interfere with operation of the security system elements. Also shown is a second security system 412 designed to receive the portable container 402 from the first security system and communication means 410 for exchanging data between the two security systems to validate that the second security systems has control of the container before the first system relinquishes control.

Amend the last paragraph on page 36 to read as follows:

Furthermore, the enhanced security systems provided within an ATM may enable the heavy steel safe that normally surrounds an ATM to be replaced by a lighter safe made of similar materials to the sleeve ~~6 and~~ 12 as herein before described.